

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-40. Canceled

41. (Currently amended) A method for ~~enhancement of~~ increasing adiponectin production in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of one or more HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor(s).

42. (Currently amended) A method for treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of Syndrome X or metabolic syndrome in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a composition consisting essentially of one or more HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor(s).

43. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 41 or 42, wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin, lovastatin, simvastatin, fluvastatin, cerivastatin, atorvastatin, pitavastatin and rosuvastatin.

44. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 41 or 42, wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is a water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor.

45. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 41 or 42, wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin or a derivative thereof and rosuvastatin or a derivative thereof.

46. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 41 or 42, wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin and rosuvastatin.

47. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 41 or 42, wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is pravastatin.

48. (Currently amended) A method for treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of hypoadiponectinemia in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of one or more water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor(s).

49. (Currently amended) A method for improving insulin resistance in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a composition consisting essentially of one or more water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor(s).

50. (Currently amended) A method for treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of hypertension in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment a composition consisting essentially of one or more water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor(s).

51. (Currently amended) A method for treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of obesity in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment a composition consisting essentially of one or more water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor(s).

52. (Currently amended) A method for treatment of arteriosclerosis in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment a composition consisting essentially of one or more water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor(s).

53. (Currently amended) A method for treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of diabetes, diabetes complications, hypertension, obesity, or arteriosclerosis in a warm-blooded animal, caused by hypoadiponectinemia, comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment a composition consisting essentially of one or more water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor(s).

54. (Currently amended) A method for treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of hypertension, obesity, or arteriosclerosis in a warm-blooded animal, caused by insulin resistance syndrome, comprising administering to a warm-blooded animal in need of such treatment a composition consisting essentially of one or more water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor(s).

55. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 48 to 54, wherein the water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin and rosuvastatin.

56. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 48 to 54, wherein the water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is pravastatin.

57. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 41, 42, and 48-54, wherein the warm-blooded animal is a human.

58. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 53, wherein the diabetes complication is retinopathy, nephropathy, neuropathy, cataract disease, or coronary artery disease.

59. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 41 or 42, wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin and rosuvastatin, and wherein the warm-blooded animal is a human.

60. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 41 or 42, wherein the HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is pravastatin, and wherein the warm-blooded animal is a human.

61. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 48 to 54, wherein the water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin and rosuvastatin, and wherein the warm-blooded animal is a human.

62. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method according to any one of claims 48 to 54, wherein the water-soluble HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor is pravastatin, and wherein the warm-blooded animal is a human.